

# DRAFT

## MEPA/NEPA/HB495 CHECKLIST

### PART I. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

1. **Type of Proposed State Action** Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposes to acquire an 8.22 acre addition to the Poindexter Slough Fishing Access Site (FAS) located near Dillon, Montana.
2. **Agency Authority for the Proposed Action** 87-1-209 MCA Authorizes Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks to acquire interests in land for public fishing access areas. The 1977 Montana Legislature enacted legislation (87-1-605 MCA) which establishes fees used to purchase recreational facilities in order to develop and operate a system of public fishing access sites. An earmarked funding account ensures that this will be accomplished. Acquisition and development of fishing access sites on Poindexter Slough and the Beaverhead River will assure public access to these quality fisheries.
3. **Name of Project** Poindexter Slough FAS Acquisition - Wheats, Inc. property adjacent to the Poindexter Slough FAS on Poindexter Slough and the Beaverhead River.
4. **Name, Address and Phone Number of Project Sponsor (if other than the agency)**

Agency Sponsored.

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

5. **If Applicable:**

Estimated Construction/Commencement Date N/A

Estimated Completion Date Winter, 2000-2001

Current Status of Project Design (% complete) N/A

OCT 03 2000

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY  
1515 E. 6th AVE.  
HELENA, MONTANA 59620

6. **Location Affected by Proposed Action (county, range and township)**

#### Beaverhead County:

A parcel of land located in the SW NW of Section 26, Township 7 South, Range 9 West, P.M.M., being an 8.22 acre tract of land depicted as 'PARCEL A' on the attached Preliminary Certificate of Survey.

7. **Project Size: Estimate the number of acres that would be directly affected that are currently:** (The Wheat property proposed for fee title acquisition is 8.22 acres.)

(a) Developed:  
residential ..... 0 acres  
industrial ..... 0 acres

(b) Open Space/~~Woodlands~~/  
Recreation ..... 8.22 acres

(c) Wetlands/Riparian  
Areas ..... 8.22 acres

(d) Floodplain ..... 8.22 acres

(e) Productive:  
irrigated cropland ..... 0 acres  
dry cropland ..... 0 acres  
forestry ..... 0 acres  
rangeland ..... 0 acres  
other ..... 0 acres

8. **Map/site plan: attach an original 8 ½" x 11" or larger section of the most recent USGS 7.5' series topographic map showing the location and boundaries of the area that would be affected by the proposed action. A different map scale may be substituted if more appropriate or if required by agency rule. If available, a site plan should also be attached.**

A Preliminary Certificate of Survey, and a topographic map showing the proposed acquisition in relation to Poindexter Slough FAS are attached.

9. **Narrative Summary of the Proposed Action or Project including the Benefits and Purpose of the Proposed Action.**

The Poindexter Slough Fishing Access Site (FAS) was acquired by FWP in 1979 and has been managed to provide walk-in public angler access to Poindexter Slough and the Beaverhead River. Other public uses of the site include hunting, trapping, hiking, dog training and walking, bird watching, and photography as well as other forms of dispersed outdoor recreation. Angler use of the site primarily centers around walk-in wade and bank angling. In 1997, fishing pressure on Poindexter Slough was estimated at 3,014 angler-days. The vast majority of this use occurred on the highly accessible FAS property. The 1997 fishing pressure for the Beaverhead River was estimated at 39,726 angler days. This estimate was not separated by river reach, hence no particular fraction of the total pressure can be attributed to the Poindexter Slough FAS.

The fisheries of the FAS are concentrated largely in Poindexter Slough and the Beaverhead River. These fisheries support wild populations of gamefish in the form of brown, rainbow, and brook trout, mountain whitefish, and burbot. Non game fish species supported on the FAS include white and longnose sucker, mottled sculpin, and longnose dace. The sport fishery of both streams is dominated by wild populations of brown trout. In spring 2000, the brown trout population of Age I and older fish was estimated at a density of 1,077 fish per 1,000 feet of stream in Poindexter Slough. The population exhibited strong wild recruitment of Age I brown trout at an estimated density of 564 per 1,000 feet and a strong component of 13 inch and larger fish estimated at 182 fish per 1,000 feet of stream. The brown trout population of the Beaverhead River along the Poindexter FAS was also estimated in the spring of 2000. The sampling revealed a population estimated at a density of 1,406 Age II and older brown trout per mile. This population exhibited densities of 861 thirteen inch and larger fish per mile and 62 eighteen inch and larger fish per mile. The recent data suggest that both streams support robust populations of wild brown trout in a public access setting.

The proposed action seeks to increase public holdings and river frontage on both Poindexter Slough and the Beaverhead River and to consolidate FWP ownership of property along the east bank of the Beaverhead River. The Wheats, Inc. acquisition would increase public ownership of Beaverhead River frontage by approximately 0.3 miles or 1584 feet. Moreover, the acquisition would bring currently unfenced and unsigned private acreage into public access and consolidate FAS ownership between the east bank of the Beaverhead River and the southbound lane of Interstate Highway 15. The unsigned private holdings of Wheats, Inc. along the east bank of the river have not been usable to the Wheat family due to a lack of practical access complicated by the presence of the river and the limited size of the parcel. At the same time, the unsigned Wheats, Inc. property has been unknowingly used by the public for fishing access and other outdoor pursuits as a de facto portion of the Poindexter Slough

Fishing Access Site. The acquisition cost of the property is \$20,000.

Questions pertaining to P-R/D-J Projects in the checklist portion (Part II. Environmental Review) of this EA are indicated as not applicable (N/A) because federal funding will not be used for this proposed acquisition.

**10. Listing of any other Local, State or Federal agency that has overlapping or additional jurisdiction.**

(a) Permits:

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Permit</u>	<u>Date Filed/#</u>
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N/A

(b) Funding:

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>
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MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks	\$20,000
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(c) Other Overlapping or Additional Jurisdictional Responsibilities:

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Type of Responsibility</u>
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N/A

**11. List of Agencies Consulted During Preparation of the EA:**

None



## PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

### PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

1. <u>LAND RESOURCES</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
➤ a. Soil instability or changes in geologic substructure?		X				
b. Disruption, displacement, erosion, compaction, moisture loss, or over-covering of soil which would reduce productivity or fertility?		X				
➤ c. Destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?		X				
d. Changes in siltation, deposition or erosion patterns that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed or shore of a lake?		X				
e. Exposure of people or property to earthquakes, landslides, ground failure, or other natural hazard?		X				
f. Other <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

### PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

2. <u>AIR</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
➤ a. Emission of air pollutants or deterioration of ambient air quality? (also see 13 (c))		X				
b. Creation of objectionable odors?		X				
c. Alteration of air movement, moisture, or temperature patterns or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?		X				
d. Adverse effects on vegetation, including crops, due to increased emissions of pollutants?		X				
e. ♦ For P-R/D-J projects, will the project result in any discharge which will conflict with federal or state air quality regs? (Also see 2a) N/A						
f. Other <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Air Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.



## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

3. <u>WATER</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
➤ a. Discharge into surface water or any alteration of surface water quality including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?		X				
b. Changes in drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff?		X				
c. Alteration of the course or magnitude of flood water or other flows?		X				
d. Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body or creation of a new water body?		X				
e. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?		X				
f. Changes in the quality of groundwater?		X				
g. Changes in the quantity of groundwater?		X				
h. Increase in risk of contamination of surface or groundwater?		X				
i. Effects on any existing water right or reservation?		X				
j. Effects on other water users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quality?		X				
k. Effects on other users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quantity?		X				
l. ♦♦For P-R/D-J, will the project affect a designated floodplain? (Also see 3c) N/A						
m. ♦For P-R/D-J, will the project result in any discharge that will affect federal or state water quality regulations? (Also see 3a) N/A						
n. Other: <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Water Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

4. <u>VEGETATION</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
a. Changes in the diversity, productivity or abundance of plant species (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?		X				
b. Alteration of a plant community?		X				
c. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		X				
d. Reduction in acreage or productivity of any agricultural land?		X				
e. Establishment or spread of noxious weeds?		X				
f. ♦♦For P-R/D-J, will the project affect wetlands, or prime and unique farmland?N/A						
g. Other: <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Vegetation Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

➤ 5. FISH/WILDLIFE  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
a. Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat?		X				
b. Changes in the diversity or abundance of game animals or bird species?		X				
c. Changes in the diversity or abundance of nongame species?		X				
d. Introduction of new species into an area?		X				
e. Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?		X				
f. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		X				
g. Increase in conditions that stress wildlife populations or limit abundance (including harassment, legal or illegal harvest or other human activity)?		X				
h. ♦♦For P-R/D-J, will the project be performed in any area in which T&E species are present, and will the project affect any T&E species or their habitat? (Also see 5f) N/A						
i. ♦For P-R/D-J, will the project introduce or export any species not presently or historically occurring in the receiving location? (Also see 5d) N/A						
j. Other: <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Fish/Wildlife Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.



## HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

6. <u>NOISE/ELECTRICAL EFFECTS</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
a. Increases in existing noise levels?		X				
b. Exposure of people to serve or nuisance noise levels?		X				
c. Creation of electrostatic or electromagnetic effects that could be detrimental to human health or property?		X				
d. Interference with radio or television reception and operation?		X				
e. Other: <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Noise/Electrical Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed)

Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

## HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

7. <u>LAND USE</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?		X				
b. Conflicted with a designated natural area or area of unusual scientific or educational importance?		X				
c. Conflict with any existing land use whose presence would constrain or potentially prohibit the proposed action?		X				
d. Adverse effects on or relocation of residences?		X				
e. Other: <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

## HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

8. <u>RISK/HEALTH HAZARDS</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
a. Risk of an explosion or release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or other forms of disruption?		X				
b. Affect an existing emergency response or emergency evacuation plan or create a need for a new plan?		X				
c. Creation of any human health hazard or potential hazard?		X				
d. ♦For P-R/D-J, will any chemical toxicants be used? (Also see 8a) N/A						
e. Other: <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Risk/Health Hazards (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

## HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

9. <u>COMMUNITY IMPACT</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?		X				
b. Alteration of the social structure of a community?		X				
c. Alteration of the level or distribution of employment or community or personal income?		X				
d. Changes in industrial or commercial activity?		X				
e. Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?		X				
f. Other: <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluation.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Community Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

◆ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.



## HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

10. PUBLIC SERVICES/TAXES/UTILITIES  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
a. Will the proposed action have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, roads or other public maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? If any, specify: <u>None</u>		X				
b. Will the proposed action have an effect upon the local or state tax base and revenues?		X				
c. Will the proposed action result in a need for new facilities or substantial alterations of any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications		X				
d. Will the proposed action result in increased used of any energy source?		X				
➤ e. Define projected revenue sources		X				
➤ f. Define projected maintenance costs.			X			See 10f. below
g. Other: <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluation.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Public Services/Taxes/Utilities (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed)

10f. No additional maintenance costs are anticipated for the Poindexter Slough FAS as a result of the proposed action. The approximate annual maintenance costs for this site are approximately \$2,500.

Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

◆ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

## HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

➤ 11. <u>AESTHETICS/RECREATION</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of any scenic vista or creation of an aesthetically offensive site or effect that is open to public view?		X				
b. Alteration of the aesthetic character of a community or neighborhood?		X				
➤c. Alteration of the quality or quantity of recreational/tourism opportunities and settings? (Attach Tourism Report)			X			See 11c. below.
d. ♦For P-R/D-J, will any designated or proposed wild or scenic rivers, trails or wilderness areas be impacted? (Also see 11a, 11c) N/A						
e. Other: <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluation.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Aesthetics/Recreation (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

11c. The additional river and slough frontage proposed for acquisition will result in a minor positive impact to the quantity of recreational opportunities. Although the property is presently not closed to public access, the proposed action will insure that the existing recreational opportunities are perpetuated.

## HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

12. <u>CULTURAL/HISTORICAL RESOURCES</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT <sup>o</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated <sup>o</sup>	Comment Index
	Unknown <sup>o</sup>	None	Minor <sup>o</sup>	Potentially Significant		
➤a. Destruction or alteration of any site, structure or object of prehistoric historic, or paleontological importance?		X				
b. Physical change that would affect unique cultural values?		X				
c. Effects on existing religious or sacred uses of a site or area?		X				
d. ♦♦For P-R/D-J, will the project affect historic or cultural resources? <b>Attach SHPO letter of clearance.</b> (Also see 12.a) N/A						
e. Other: <u>N/A</u>						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluation.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Cultural/Historical Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed)

Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

## HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

13. SUMMARY EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE  Will the proposed action, considered as a whole:	IMPACT <sup>⊙</sup>				Can Impact Be Mitigated ⊙	Comment Index
	Unknown ⊙	None	Minor <sup>⊙</sup>	Potentially Significant		
a. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project or program may result in impacts on two or more separate resources which create a significant effect when considered together or in total.)		X				
b. Involve potential risks or adverse effects which are uncertain but extremely hazardous if they were to occur?		X				
c. Potentially conflict with the substantive requirements of any local, state, or federal law, regulation, standard or formal plan?		X				
d. Establish a precedent or likelihood that future actions with significant environmental impacts will be proposed?		X				
e. Generate substantial debate or controversy about the nature of the impacts that would be created?		X				
f. ♦For P-R/D-J, is the project expected to have organized opposition or generate substantial public controversy? (Also see 13e) N/A						
g. ♦♦For P-R/D-J, list any federal or state permits required. N/A						

\* include an attachment with a narrative explanation describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.



**2. Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no action alternative) to the proposed action whenever alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider and a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented:**

**Alternative A: Proposed Action**

This alternative is the proposed action (preferred alternative). This alternative is described under Part I, number 9, **Narrative Description of Proposed Action**, on page two of this EA.

**Alternative B: No action alternative.**

Under this alternative FWP would not acquire the additional frontage on Poindexter Slough and the Beaverhead River. The property would remain in private ownership, and public fishing access to the property would not be assured in the future. The opportunity to consolidate FWP land ownership on the east side of the Beaverhead River at the existing fishing access site would not be realized.

**3. Evaluation and listing of mitigation, stipulation, or other control measures enforceable by the agency or another government agency:**

The property proposed for acquisition will be managed under the current Poindexter Slough FAS Management Plan. This plan provides for the management of the property emphasizing fish and wildlife habitat, and public recreation uses.

**4. Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, is an EIS required? NO If an EIS is not required, explain why the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed action:**

This review clearly demonstrates that the impacts associated with the proposal are not significant. Based upon the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, an EA is the appropriate level of analysis and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

**5. Describe the level of public involvement for this project if any and, given the complexity and the seriousness of the environmental issues associated with the proposed action, is the level of public involvement appropriate under the circumstances?**

The public will receive notice of this proposed action, and FWP will accept public comment on the proposal and alternatives for a 14 day public comment period (October 2 through October 16, 2000). Notice of this proposal will be published in the following newspapers: Dillon Tribune, the Montana Standard, and the Helena Independent Record. Notice of the proposed action will also be provided on the state electronic bulletin board. Copies of this EA will be distributed to those individuals on the Region Three standard distribution list as well as to adjoining landowners, interested sportsman clubs and conservation groups.

Comments on this proposed action should be sent to the following address: Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks, Poindexter Slough FAS Acquisition-Wheats, Inc. Property, 1400 19<sup>th</sup>, Bozeman, MT 59718.

The opportunities for public input listed above are appropriate for the proposed action.

**6. Duration of comment period if any:** The comment period will be for Fourteen days beginning October 2, 2000 until 5:00 p.m. October 16, 2000.

**7. Name, title, address and phone number of the Person(s) Responsible for Preparing the EA:**

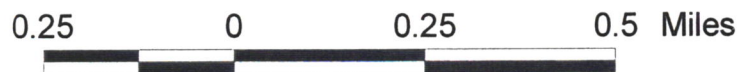
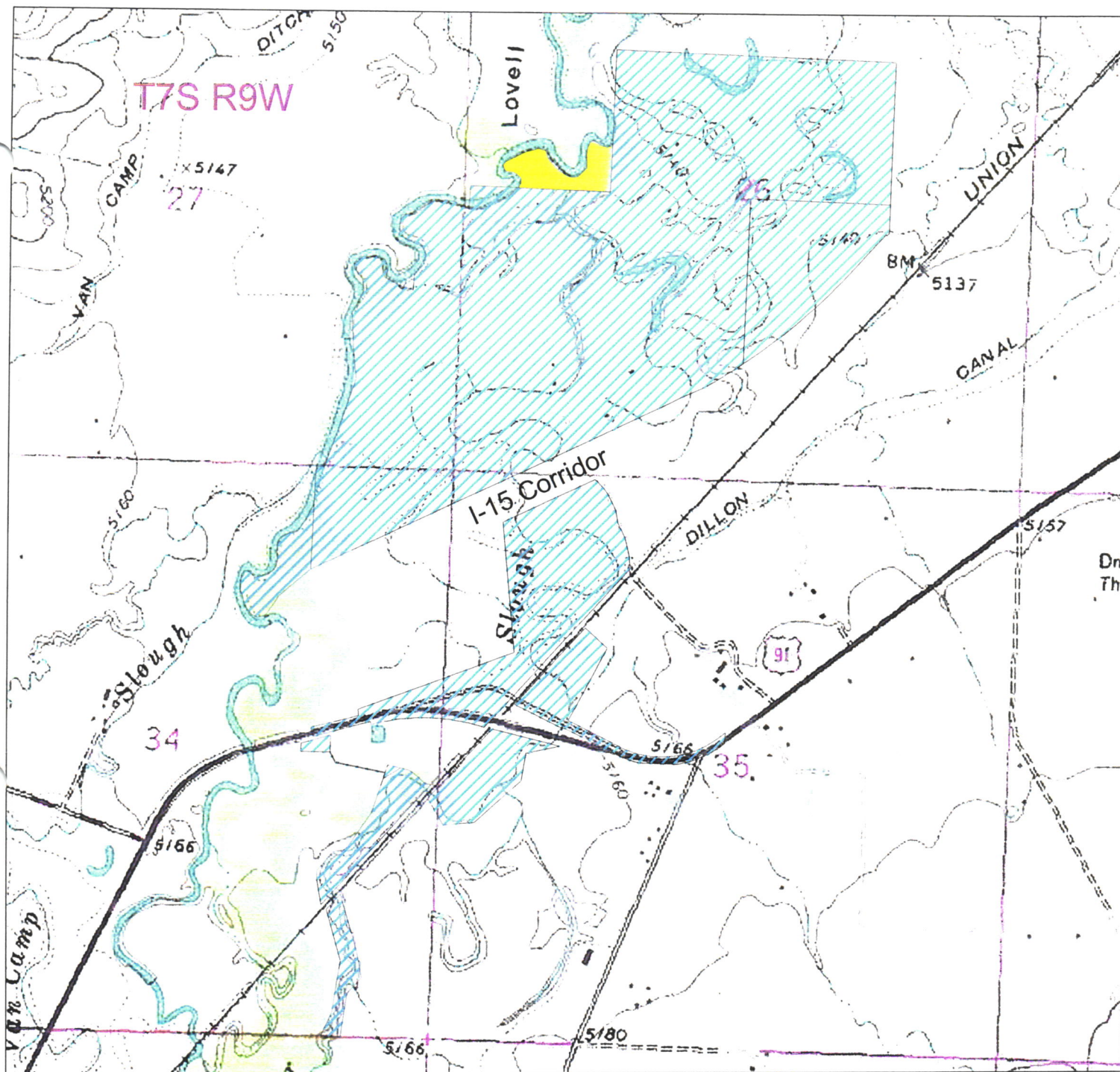
Dick Oswald  
FWP Fisheries Biologist  
730 N. Montana  
Dillon, MT 59725  
(406) 683-9310

Jerry Walker  
FWP Regional Park Manager  
1400 S. 19th  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
(406) 994-4042

### **PART III. NARRATIVE EVALUATION AND COMMENT**

#### **Attachments:**

1. Preliminary Survey – Wheats Inc., Property
2. Site map – Poindexter Slough Fishing Access Site

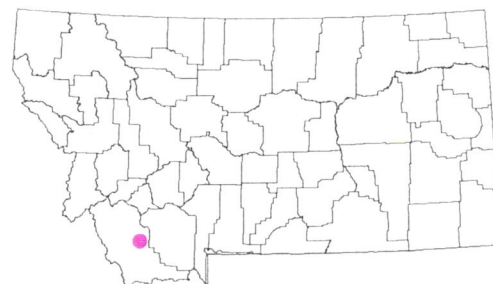


## Poindexter Slough Fishing Access Site

- New Parcel
- Existing Site

Map produced by:  
 Martie Crone  
 Land Section, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
 Helena, Montana  
 poindexter\_slough.apr 9/13/00

Proposed area screen-digitized and boundaries are approximate.  
 Existing Fishing Access Site (FAS) digitized by the Information  
 Services Unit of the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department.  
 FAS digitized at 1:24,000 using the COGO module of Arc/Info.  
 Background image is a USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle digital raster  
 graphic.





## LEGEND

THIS SURVEY COMMISSIONED BY  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF  
FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS  
AND WHEATS, INC.

- SECTION CORNER-STEEL FENCE POST SET IN THE MIDDLE OF A SMALL SLOUGH
- ▲ SIXTEENTH CORNER SET FOR C.D.S. NO. 946-2K" DIAMETER ALUMINUM CAP MARKED HOWARD 8376S
- QUARTER CORNER SET FOR C.D.S. NO. 946-2K" DIAMETER ALUMINUM CAP MARKED HOWARD 8376S
- REFERENCE MONUMENT SET FOR C.D.S. NO. 946-2K" DIAMETER ALUMINUM CAP MARKED HOWARD 8376S
- PROPERTY CORNER NOT SET-CENTERLINE OF THE BEAVERHEAD RIVER

(R) RECORD

FVP  
PROPERTY  
TRACT 2  
C.D.S. NO. 946

WHEATS, INC.  
PROPERTY

PARCEL A  
WHEATS, INC. PROPERTY  
8.22 ACRES

PROPERTY

PROPERTY  
TRACT 3  
C.O.S. NO. 946

FVP  
PROPERTY  
PARCEL 1  
C.O.S. NO. 245

N00°17'51"V-2652.23'(M)  
N00°17'57"V-2652.30'(R)

Scale 1" = 100'

CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY NUMBER

**ANDERSON**  
**Consulting Engineers**

A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE SW1/4NW1/4 OF SECTION 28, T7S, R9W, P.M.M., BEAVERHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF  
FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS AN  
WHEATS, INC.

333 EAST HELENA / P.O. BOX 1333 / DILLON, MT 59725  
PHONE (406) 683-2314 FAX (406) 683-2227

1. *Journal of Management Studies*, 27(1), 105-127.

SHEET 1 OF 2

DATE: JUNE 26, 2000

# PRELIMINARY

CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY

THIS SURVEY COMMISSIONED BY  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF  
FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS  
AND WHEATS, INC.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
PARCEL A

A parcel of land located in the SW1/4NW1/4 of Section 26, Township 7 South, Range 9 West, P.M.M., County of Beaverhead, State of Montana and more completely described as follows:  
Beginning at the west quarter corner of said Section 26, thence S89°56'34"E-398.89 feet to a point on the centerline of the Beaverhead River, first through thirty-ninth courses are along said centerline, thence first course, N38°24'46"E-20.37 feet, thence second course, N28°42'31"E-52.81 feet, thence third course, N14°32'47"E-41.06 feet, thence fourth course, N30°20'58"E-43.40 feet, thence fifth course, N38°18'15"E-57.84 feet, thence sixth course, S81°46'09"E-48.27 feet, thence seventh course, S75°31'30"E-45.79 feet, thence eighth course, N88°10'36"E-41.39 feet, thence ninth course, N56°00'25"E-25.74 feet, thence tenth course, N83°05'42"E-38.29 feet, thence eleventh course, N13°31'58"E-19.87 feet, thence twelfth course, N36°05'47"E-74.79 feet, thence thirteenth course, N67°54'32"E-104.12 feet, thence fourteenth course, N56°43'36"E-64.75 feet, thence fifteenth course, N82°31'34"E-77.55 feet, thence sixteenth course, N51°16'32"E-118.86 feet, thence seventeenth course, N72°39'38"E-73.34 feet, thence eighteenth course, N51°16'32"E-118.86 feet, thence nineteenth course, S34°28'37"E-85.74 feet, thence twentieth course, S19°04'15"E-71.25 feet, thence twenty-first course, S32°49'36"E-33.09 feet, thence twenty-second course, S39°10'02"E-65.34 feet, thence twenty-third course, S63°54'31"E-95.62 feet, thence twenty-fourth course, S88°42'00"E-35.79 feet, thence twenty-fifth course, N45°56'29"E-76.32 feet, thence twenty-sixth course, N68°15'16"E-85.04 feet, thence twenty-seventh course, N52°36'04"E-59.00 feet, thence twenty-eighth course, N43°32'55"E-59.06 feet, thence twenty-ninth course, S89°44'08"E-23.59 feet, thence thirtieth course, S53°31'32"E-55.88 feet, thence thirty-first course, S06°17'47"E-29.53 feet, thence thirty-second course, S17°56'14"E-63.45 feet, thence thirty-third course, N87°30'02"E-24.03 feet, thence thirty-fourth course, N67°32'37"E-36.31 feet, thence thirty-fifth course, N49°37'06"E-54.40 feet, thence thirty-sixth course, N18°50'16"E-10.28 feet, thence thirty-seventh course, S40°20'21"E-48.13 feet, thence thirty-eighth course, N89°56'34"E-89.93 feet to the point of beginning.  
Said parcel containing 8.22 acres.

Bearings based on the record bearings of C.D.S. No. 946.  
This survey was completed June 20, 2000.

CERTIFICATE OF EXAMINING LAND SURVEYOR

Reviewed for errors and omissions this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000, pursuant to Section 76-3-611 (2) (g), MCA.

Examining Land Surveyor \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. No. \_\_\_\_\_

PURPOSE OF SURVEY

This survey is filed with the intent to qualify for the exemption found in Section 76-3-207(1)(a).  
To wit: Section 76-3-207(1)(a), this division of land is to relocate common boundary lines between adjoining properties, and no additional parcels are created; therefore, this division of land is exempt from review as a subdivision.

OWNERS CERTIFICATION

This survey is exempt from review by the Department of Environmental Quality as per 17.36.603(2)(a).

Divisions for the purpose of acquiring additional land to become part of a parcel that does not have any sanitary restrictions imposed provided that no dwelling or structure requiring water or sewage will be erected on the additional acquired parcel.

Wheats, Inc. Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: Patrick J. Graham  
Director

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE  
ME, THIS \_\_\_\_\_ 2000  
NOTARY PUBLIC FOR THE STATE  
OF \_\_\_\_\_, RESIDING  
AT \_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY SIGNATURE AND  
SEAL  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES \_\_\_\_\_

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that I am a Registered Land Surveyor in the State of Montana, that the Survey represented on this Certificate of Survey has been executed under my supervision in accordance with the requirements of law, that to the best of my knowledge the survey is true and complete as shown and that all monuments set, together with those found, are of the type shown, and are sufficient to enable the survey to be retraced.

Villian H. Anderson P.E., P.L.S. #9692ES

CERTIFICATE OF COUNTY TREASURER

I hereby certify, pursuant to Section 76-3-611 (1) (b), MCA, that no real property taxes assessed and levied on the land described are delinquent.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000.

Treasurer, Beaverhead County, Montana

CLERK AND RECORDER

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Clerk and Recorder of Beaverhead County, Montana, do hereby verify that the foregoing instrument was filed in my office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D., \_\_\_\_\_, N., in the records of the Clerk and Recorder, Beaverhead County, Montana.

Clerk and Recorder By: \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy

PRELIMINARY

CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE SW1/4NW1/4 OF SECTION 26, T7S, R9W, P.M.M., BEAVERHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF  
FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS AND  
WHEATS, INC.  
BOUNDARY RELOCATION SURVEY



33 EAST HELENA / P.O. BOX 1333 / HELENA, MT 59725  
PHONE (406) 863-2314 FAX (406) 863-2227